

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: August 8, 2023

TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Sea Turtle Nesting Monitoring Discussion

DATE: July 27, 2023

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town staff requests that Town Council provide any direction deemed necessary.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town Council continues to receive inquiries from concerned residents and the general public about ongoing sea turtle monitoring in the Town. Sea turtle nesting monitoring within the Town is performed under the permission and guidance of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) consistent with the 170-page FWC Marine Turtle Conservation Handbook. Town consultant, D.B. Ecological, Inc. (DBE) works as an agent to FWC under their direct supervision. DBE, with a staff of five (5) personnel, surveys the Town's 12.2 miles of shoreline daily between March 1st and October 31st each year. DBE has regular communication not only with FWC, but with both Public Works staff and the Police Department.

Town staff has prepared previous correspondence to Town Council regarding this topic. Attached are copies of these memorandums.

Concerned residents or members of the general public can stay involved with the following:

For urgent matters, the Police Department asks homeowners and others to contact them directly at either their emergency (911) or non-emergency number (561-838-5454) when a crime or wildlife violation is in progress. As a reminder, the Town's Police Department has a response time routinely under four (4) minutes and are usually quicker. In addition, to report someone disturbing a sea turtle nest or an injured, dead or harassed sea turtle, call Wildlife Alert 888-404-FWCC (888-404-3922) or report it online. Cell phone users can also call *FWC or #fwc, or send a text to Tip@myfwc.com.

Dr. Robbin Trindell, Imperiled Species Coordinator, FWC, will be presenting during the upcoming annual Beach Management Agreement meeting in Town Council Chambers on August 24, 2023. She is expected to go over the results of last year's sea turtle nesting and review the nesting trends within the Town over the past few years.

Attachments

cc: Robbin Trindell, Ph.D., FWC
Nick Caristo, Chief of Police
Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer
Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager
Will Rothrock, Police Captain
Chris Perretta, D.B. Ecological, Inc.